

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-47 are pending in this patent application. By this amendment, claims 1-14, 19-29, 31-33, 36-37, 39, 42, and 44 have been amended. Reconsideration of this patent application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 41-47 were allowed. However, claims 42 and 44 have been amended to more clearly define Applicant's invention.

Claims 10, 11, and 13-18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Since Applicant believes that the claims from which these claims depend are themselves allowable, such rewriting has not been done. However, claims 10, 11, and 13-14 have been amended to more clearly define Applicant's invention. As a result, each of claims 10, 11, and 13-18 is believed to be in proper form for allowance.

### **35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejections**

Claims 1-9, 12, and 20-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as certain claims in U.S. Patent No. 6,726,451. (Same Invention Double Patenting.) Applicant has amended these claims so as not to be identical (or virtually identical) to the respective claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,726,451. Thus, claims 1-9, 12, and 20-39 are believed to be in proper form for allowance. If the Examiner determines that these claims are obvious over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,726,451, Applicant will submit a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome such rejection.

### **Obviousness-Type Double Patenting**

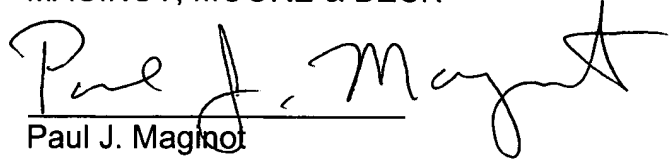
Claim 40 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 40 of U.S. Patent No. 6,726,451. Applicant will submit a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate this rejection upon indication that claims 1-9, 12, and 20-39 have been allowed.

## Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Action to that end is hereby solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul J. Maginot", written over a horizontal line.

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